

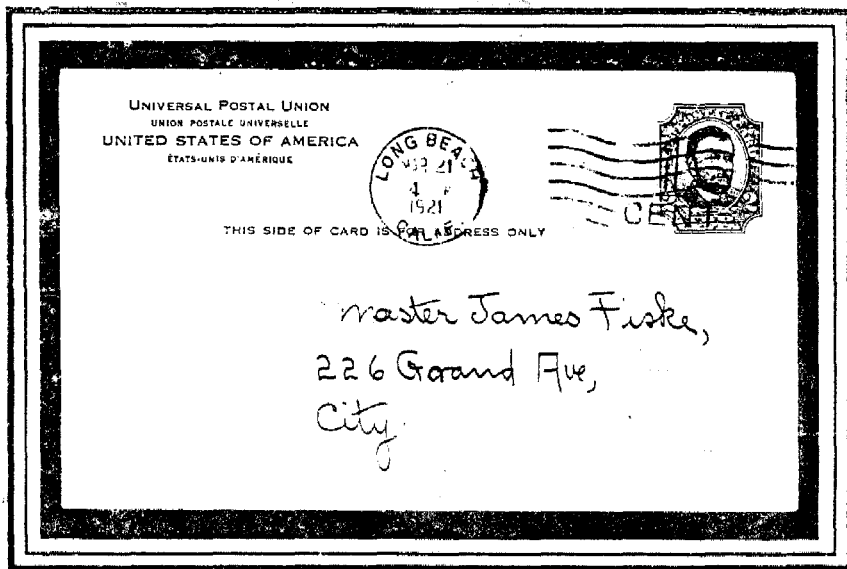


THE JOURNAL OF THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Edited by Peter van Gelder

Issue No. 10

October 1997



Probably the World's most valuable postal card
(see page 21)

USEFUL ADDRESSES

SECRETARY David Taylor Smith,
23 Britannia Road,
Norwich, Norfolk, ENGLAND.

TREASURER Sam Barkley,
77 Rathmore Heights,
Ballymena, Co. Antrim,
NORTHERN IRELAND, BT436NG.

EDITOR/LIBRARIAN Peter van Gelder,
Somerhay, 16 Frant Avenue,
Little Common, Bexhill,
Sussex, ENGLAND.

AUCTION ORGANISER Tony Chilton,
56 Framfield Road,
Mitcham, Surrey, ENGLAND.

NEWSLETTER PRODUCER John Barker,
35 Portia Avenue,
Shirley, Solihull,
West Midlands, ENGLAND.

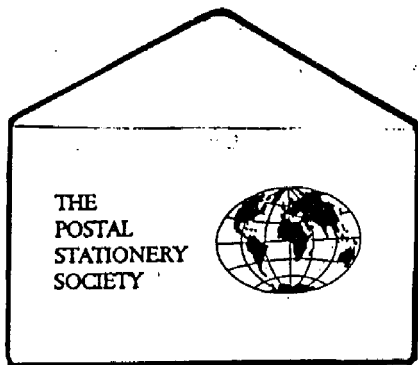
Our Publicity Officer is Colin Baker. Our A.B.P.S. Representative is Michael Smith.

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Editorial



Here you can see the emblem or logo that was chosen from among 4 alternatives by popular vote at last month's A.G.M. It will be used on the Society's publicity material & printed notepaper. I should like to thank those who contributed ideas as requested in the previous issue of "P.S.", especially David Williams and Colin Baker.

Continuing the thanking theme, and now that the Society has completed its first 5 years, I should like to record thanks to all the officers for their valued efforts under the leadership of our widely known & widely travelled Chairman, Alan Huggins, and our Secretary (who started it all!), David Taylor Smith.

Mention of the Secretary leads me finally to a request from him. At a recent meeting he lent his copy of Wiegand's "Katalog der Aerogramme" (Asia) to someone whose identity he has forgotten. Would that person please return it to the Secretary without delay.

MIDPEX '97

The first MIDPEX, in 1995, was a resounding success: collectors saw the great possibilities for developing their collections and the support available to them through the publications and services of the specialist societies.

MIDPEX '97 built upon the achievements of 1995 by utilising 4 halls and attracting 60 specialist societies and over 40 dealers. The Postal Stationery Society was housed in one of the smaller halls, but this did not detract from the steady stream of visitors to our stand. It was encouraging to meet many existing members and to enrol several new ones.

Each society was allocated 6 frames with 16 sheets per frame. Our frames featured G.B. (from Alan Huggins), South Africa (from Tony Chilton), Burma & Dutch East Indies/Indonesia (David Taylor Smith) and Germany (John Barker). Also 9 other societies each showed at least one frame devoted mainly to p.s., and 31 others included p.s. items within their exhibits. This surely indicates a growing trend to collect beyond the bounds of the traditional stamp catalogues. The inclusion of p.s. in some "stamp" catalogues, the production of catalogues specifically for p.s., and the featuring of p.s. in many specialist publications - all this has helped to bring about a renewed interest in the subject.

MIDPEX has now become established as a biennial event, and plans for MIDPEX '99 are well under way!

John Barker

SOCIETY REPORTS

A regional meeting was held at Glastonbury Town Hall (Somerset) on 24th May in conjunction with Wells Philatelic Society's annual fair & exhibition. Our thanks go to that Society for kindly providing us

with free accommodation in the magnificent Mayor's Parlour. Five of our members assembled in a room that could hold fifty! All 5, however, brought along stationery to display and talk about: G.B. KEVII Post Office issues (from Colin Baker); G.B. stamped-to-order items, cut-outs, etc. (Cyril Dibble); Bosnia & Herzegovina 1918-19 (Alan Bailey); G.B. wrappers, advertising rings, "Marshians", etc. (Allen Cotton); Diamond Jubilee 1897 and Australian federation cards (Peter van Gelder).

The first regional meeting ever held by the Society was at Stowmarket (Suffolk) in May 1994. The same location was chosen for a regional meeting on 19th July this year. Unhappily only 2 members came along, although we have some 10 members in that region. Colin Salt showed used Australian wrappers & envelopes to 1975, & David Taylor Smith showed Burma & Dutch East Indies.

Footnote - A meeting in your region is likely to be a rare event, so make sure you GO TO IT!

SOCIETY CALENDAR

7th March, 6th June & 26th September have been *provisionally* chosen as the dates for the Society's 1998 London meetings. More definite information and details will appear in the February 1998 "P.S."

25th October 1997 - A regional meeting will be held at King's School, King's Road, Winchester in association with HAMPEX '97. Members are invited to bring along items and give short talks/displays. It is hoped that members in the area will have had early notice of this meeting from our organiser, Michael Smith.

COMING UP in next February's "P.S.".....

Siegfried Ascher, Collector & Cataloguer

Query Corner

- queries from the India Study Circle, Michael Shaw, Daniele Carrer & Rufus Barnes - with some responses

ARTICLES

CUT-OUTS USED AS ADHESIVES

by John Norton

Prior to 1870 the only items of postal stationery in use in Britain were envelopes & lettersheets. One could be led to believe that the use of postal stationery cut-outs from such items was unnecessary. Yet we do find items from this period that have been cut out and re-used.

From 1.10.1870 postal cards & newspaper wrappers came into use, followed by registered mail (1878), reply postal cards (1.10.82), lettercards (11.2.92), and much later airmail lettersheets (1943). From 1870 use of cut-outs was made illegal - yet we can find items that got past the counter clerks.

The Act was rescinded on 1st January 1905, but only came into force on 1st May, when counter clerks were instructed to accept such items. By coincidence I do have a "first day of issue", if 1st May was the operative day. There is a wealth of combinations of cut-outs of Queen Victoria, Edward VII, George V and VI, up to Queen Elizabeth II. It does appear that a number of philatelic dealers used cut-outs quite a lot, maybe philatelically, but I can also imagine them having piles of postal stationery through dealing. On the other hand, cut-outs that have gone through the post once have been used again with prior cancellations visible or skilfully covered over with adhesive paper. This led the Post Office to issue an Amendment in 1925 stating that postal stationery cut-outs could be used only if they were stuck on to other items of post *with glue only*.

I do not think the original Act has been amended or repealed; so use of cut-outs is still valid. I go around the dealers at stamp fairs and am appalled at the prices they ask for such items, which they seem to know very little about! 6



F. J. Notermann Esq

Box 28.

Manchester

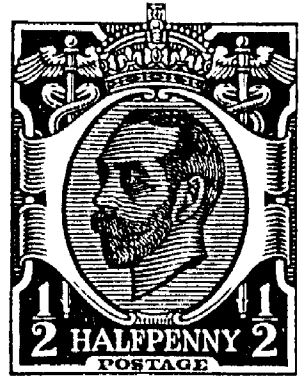
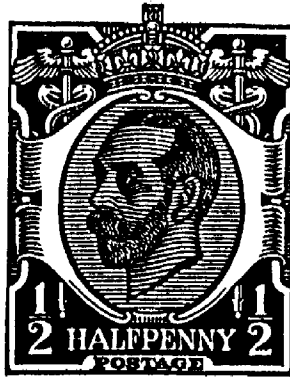
New Hampshire

United States of America

Posted in London on 1st May 1905

I and II

R D



III and III

R D



III and IV

R D



DIES (OR TYPES) OF THE G.B. HALFPENNY KBV
¾-FACE STAMP FOR POSTAL CARDS & WRAPPERS

by Andrew Whitworth

Editor's note: a caduceus is "a wand surmounted by 2 wings and entwined by 2 serpents".

I. Hand stops of caduceus (near its base) are short and straight. Shading line in shaft of caduceus at top right is complete. All shading lines in the background are joined to the oval frame.

II. Hand stops of caduceus are short & straight. Shading line in the shaft of caduceus at top right is missing between the serpents' heads. All shading lines in the background are joined to the oval frame.

III. Hand stops of caduceus are longer and curved. Shading line in shaft of caduceus at top right is complete. Some or all shading lines in the background are not joined to the oval frame. (The 3 illustrations show variations in the proportion of lines not joined.)

IV. Hand stops of caduceus are longer and curved. Shading line in shaft of caduceus at top right is complete. All shading lines in the background are joined to the oval frame.

Harry Dagnall (in "The Evolution of British Stamped Postcards & Lettercards", 1985, and in "Postal Stationery Wrappers", 1993) considers that II is the result of damage to I. He does not recognise IV in either publication. Alan Huggins (in the 1971 reprint of "British Postal Stationery") lists only I, II & III, and he reports the item that I classify as IV as III with the shading appearing to be joined to the oval - possibly owing to heavier inking during printing.

In 1972 I formed the opinion, based on my own reference collection and on my trading stock, that IV is a distinct type or die which is NOT the result of heavier inking of III. I recorded this view with a description of each of the four types/dies in my Spring 1972 price list and have been offering the four separate versions ever since. In the 25 years that have elapsed I have not changed my opinion. I leave it to others to decide whether III and IV are different original dies or distinct states of a single die.

Unseen Items

I have never seen, and doubt the existence of, several items listed in "British Postal Stationery", and I list these below together with the items which I suggest were mistaken for them. In particular I include in the doubtful list items described as III which I have never seen with lines NOT joined to the oval.

<i>Doubtful listed items</i>	<i>Probably mistaken for</i>
RPC CP64a I+I	IV+IV
CP64b I+II	IV+II
CP64c II+II	II+IV
CP64g III+III	IV+IV
CP65a I+I	IV+IV
CP65b II+II	II+IV
CP65f III+III	III+IV or IV+III orr IV+IV
STO PC CS31 III	IV
• CS32b III	IV
CS38 III	IV
CS39 III	IV
Wrapper WP25a I	IV
STO Wrapper WS12 I	IV

I have not seen CS33 which is listed as III, and I strongly suspect that this is actually IV. I have also not seen CS31 and CS32a, each listed as II. No die numbers are listed for WS15, WS16 or WS19. I have WS16 which is die IV. I have not seen the other two.

If anybody has any of the items which I describe as doubtful, or any which I have not seen, I shall be delighted to hear from them.

If my view of the 4 dies/types is accepted, then any of the items which I describe as doubtful and which are not confirmed by recheck, will presumably be deleted from the next edition of "British Postal Stationery", and the following will presumably be added:-

PC CP58 IV

CP59 IV

RPC CP60 I+IV (R+R, r+R)

II+IV (R+R)

III+I (R+R, R+r)

III+IV (R+R)

IV+II (R+R)

IV+III (R+r)

IV+IV (R+R, R+r)

- with the footote that CP60 without stop after "REPLY" exists I+I, I+IV, III+I, III+IV & IV+IV; and that CP60 with stop after "REPLY" exists II+II, II+III, II+IV, III+II, III+III, III+IV, IV+II, IV+III, & IV+IV.

RPC CP61 II+IV (R+R, R+r, r+R, r=r)

III+IV (R+R, r+R, R+r)

IV+I (R+R)

IV+II (R+r)

IV+III (R+R)

IV+IV (R+R, R+r, r+R, r+r)

RPC CP64 II+IV (R+R)

IV+II (R+R)

IV+IV (R+R)

RPC CP65 II+IV (r+R)

III+IV (R+r)

IV+II (R+R)

IV+III (r+R)

IV+IV (R+R, R+r, r+r)

STO PC 1913 as CS31 but IV

as CS32b but IV

STO PC 1918 as CS38 but IV

as CS39 but IV

Variety showing full stop after card and after half penny or stamp.



POST CARD W. KENSINGTON



5. 30 P

5 SEP 13

ALWAYS SEP 13 + 30

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in Road.

3- SEP 1913
acknowledge
tioned returns
your credit.

578	1676						
							5786

Illustrated above are the front & back of a strip 137mm long cut from a STO postal card with 3/4-face KGV halfpenny die IV in a format which I do not remember seeing previously recorded. The Royal Arms are in the top left corner, differently drawn and with "BY APPOINTMENT TO" above and "H.M. THE KING" below.

Wrapper WP25 IV
STO Wrapper as WS12 but IV

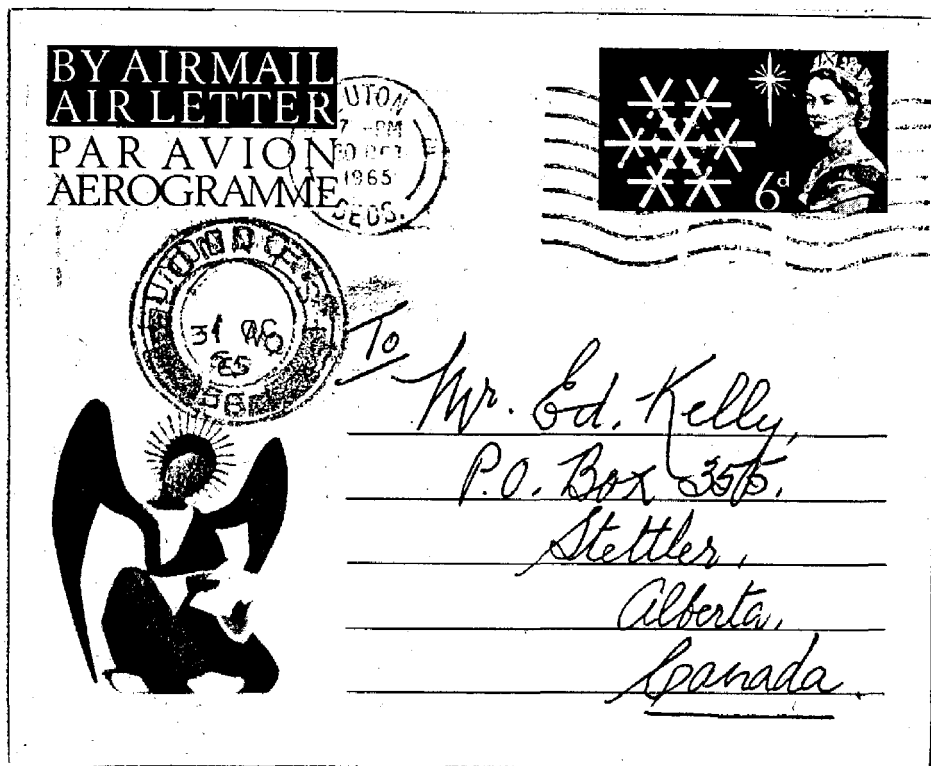
- The following modifications would presumably also be necessary to the footnotes on "r/R".:-
- CP60 II+III is R+r (not R+R; R+R is on II+IV)
 - III+II is R+r (not R+R; R+R is on IV+II)
 - III+III is R+R only (not R+r; R+r is on III+IV & IV+III)
 - CP61 II+II also exists R+R
 - II+III is R+R only (not r+R or R+r; r+R & R+r are both on II+IV)
 - III+II - I have R+r only & have not seen R+R on III+II or on IV+II
 - III+III is R+R, r+R, R+r only (not r+r; r+r is on IV+IV)
 - CP64 II+II also exists R+r
 - II+III is R+r only (not R+R; R+R is on II+IV)

CP65 II+III also exists r+r

Overprints For Use Overseas

I hope that these will be listed in the next edition of "British Postal Stationery". For the record, the items which I have are:-
LEVANT Wrappers II & IV

I welcome correspondence from anyone who can add to my present information. My address is: 1 Prizet House, Kendal, Cumbria, England LA8 8AB.



See next page

PRE-FIRST DAY CHRISTMAS AEROGRAMMES

by Duff Malkin

The 1965 Christmas aerogrammes were Great Britain's first and were supposed to be released on 1st November of that year. This date is probably when most were issued.

Two days before, however, at Luton in Bedfordshire the aerogrammes were on sale, and an enterprising philatelist sent off at least 10 (perhaps 5 of each of the two designs) to an address in Alberta, Canada. The note inside asked the sender to return 8 of the aerogrammes and retain 2. The two I own are those the addressee retained. As the sender was a collector, it is possible that he sent others elsewhere. Perhaps he bought the aerogrammes at lunch or in the afternoon - the machine time cancel reads 7p.m., so they were certainly posted by then.

The next day someone in the London Foreign Section saw these aerogrammes (ny two and most likely all ten) and probably realised they had been sold too early. There was a problem: the post office people could not change the date on the Luton cancel - the damage was already done. A 31st October cancel was applied to both (or all) the aerogrammes, and the items were held till 1st November (the proper date of issue) - when they were cancelled yet again! Holding these items until "the day" was about the best Royal Mail could do.

One imagines that teelephone calls were made to Luton post office and that some readings of regulations were made to the staff therein. Doubtless they were more careful in future!

(See illustration on previous page)

Auction Action

A few items of postal stationery are quite often to be found tucked away among numerous lots of adhesive stamps. This is well illustrated by a sale held by Dix Noonan Webb in London on 14th May. In a list of 770 lots I spotted 22 of postal stationery: British Levant 1, Greece 3, Japan 3, G.B. 15. A Japanese example was a 1903 2s postal card, additionally franked with 2s red, used from Hiroshima to Reykjavik. Described as very scarce and estimated at £250 to £300, this was unsold.

The G.B. section of the sale contained this Mulready (among several):- "1d letter sheet A26 (forme 2) fine used 1840 (July) from Thrapstone to Leicester with deep red M.C., showing blue 'THRAPSTONE/PENNY POST' and red 'THRAPSTONE/JY 7/1840' despatch c.d.s. on front, clean and most attractive. Ex Yares and Shaida". This sold for £200, as estimated.

Another G.B. item, but very different, was:- "1921 stamped to order 1d & 1½d postcards size d (Huggins Cs53 & 56), each in an unused uncut block of four. 1½d with a small stain spot, otherwise mainly fine." Estimated at £60 to £70, this did not sell.

A Premature Mulready

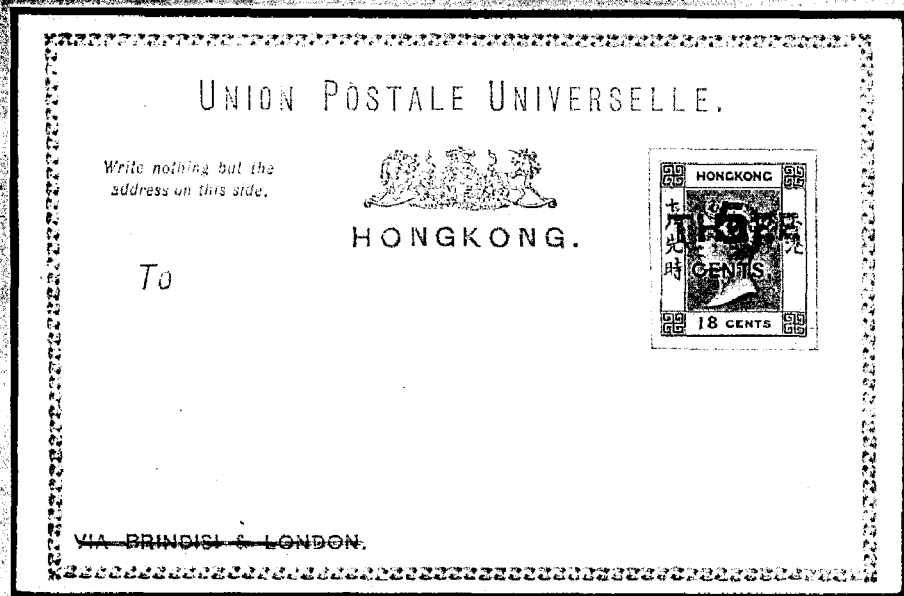
Many readers will recall an article in "P.S." no.2 in which Alan Huggins listed the 12 known examples of Mulreadies used prior to the official issue date of 6th May 1840. A chance to add one of these remarkable items to your collection came on 24th July at Harmers London sale room. I note that you did not take the chance, for the lot was unsold! The estimate was £3000 and the description was:- "1840 Mulready 1d wrapper (A64) with superb 'PAID/LS /5 MY 5/1840' Maltese Cross datestamp, addressed to Oxford; a trifle soiled and a red '1' marking has probably been removed, slight flap damage on the reverse, otherwise superb and most attractive. A rare example used before the first day of official use. Ex E.E. Yates". 15

A Sale in South Africa

I had never seen a sale catalogue for Stephan Weiz & Co. of Joannesburg until Tony Chilton kindly sent one for their March sale. It contained several p.s. lots, notably for Australia, Hong Kong and Seychelles. The most valuable stationery item was a Hong Kong postal card "the very rare 3c on 5c on 18c lilac on white card with blue prtg, fine unused (S.G.P3) bottom right corner of stamp pulled perfs, a most elusive item". The stamp referred to was one specially surcharged for use on a postcard, so the whole thing is in a grey area on the fringe of p.s. The card is illustrated here. The bidding went far beyond the estimated 6000-7000 rands, reaching 22000 - equal to about £3000.

One of the Australian lots consisted of 4 1911 Coronation cards, unused, one being of Queen Mary & the others of the Prince of Wales. Here the estimate was slightly exceeded with a successful bid of 550 rands (about £75). Allowing for addition of premium/tax, this is probably normal market value.

Peter van Gelder



TOPICS

A SAUCY SEASIDE.....REGISTERED ENVELOPE!

Following on from the Christmas card given the appearance of a registered envelope, Colin Baker has sent in an example of a "registered envelope" taking centre stage on a picture postcard drawn by Donald McGill, the pre-eminent saucy seaside postcard artist (fat ladies, etc.!). Colin notes: "The card shows a fairly accurate reproduction of a 1930 G.B. KGV registered envelope. The card was used from Brighton on 15th October 1934. Close examination of the card reveals that the envelope is not a photographic reproduction but has been hand-drawn. This is the only example I have seen in all my years of collecting where postal stationery has been depicted in this fashion. Have any other members seen similar cards or advertising material using G.B. (or any other country's) postal stationery as a theme?"

The picture side of the card is illustrated here - note the name & address - and the registration label "SOS LSD 4U"! (See also "P.S." no.9, p.27.)

MORE "ROYAL EXCHANGE" POSTAL CARDS EMERGING?

On pages 29 & 31 of "P.S." no.6 Alan Huggins described a G.B. KEVII postal card (size f, with 1d red embossed), used to the U.S.A. in 1911. The left front was printed up for J.J. Harris & Company of London, who were seeking agents for livestock and motor vehicle insurance. I think that was the first example Alan had seen of a G.B. 1d KEVII STO card, *though at last month's Society meeting in London he told me he now knows of 5 cards of the same kind.*

Meanwhile Duff Malkin has sent me an article published in "The American Philatelist", December 1966. It is by Charles Fricke and illustrates one of these same

cards, this one being addressed to "John C. Burtis, Esq., El Paso, Ill., U.S.A.". The postmark is LONDON E/32/9.45 PM/OC 3/11. Let me quote from the article: "Since the card was intended for use to the Unuted States, it required a one-penny stamp to meet the overseas postal rate...A check of both Huggins and Higgins & Gage catalogues, however, shows that neither of them lists any STO/PTPO '1d embossed' stamped postal cards for this period...So what appears at first glance to be an ordinary picture postal card of London is in all probability an un-listed/classic item of G.B. postal stationery".

My thoughts are (a) does Mr Fricke's card extend the number known to 6, and (b) as these cards seem to have been produced specifically for sending to the U.S.A., might there not be several more examples still lurking "over there"?

Peter van Gelder

LETTERS

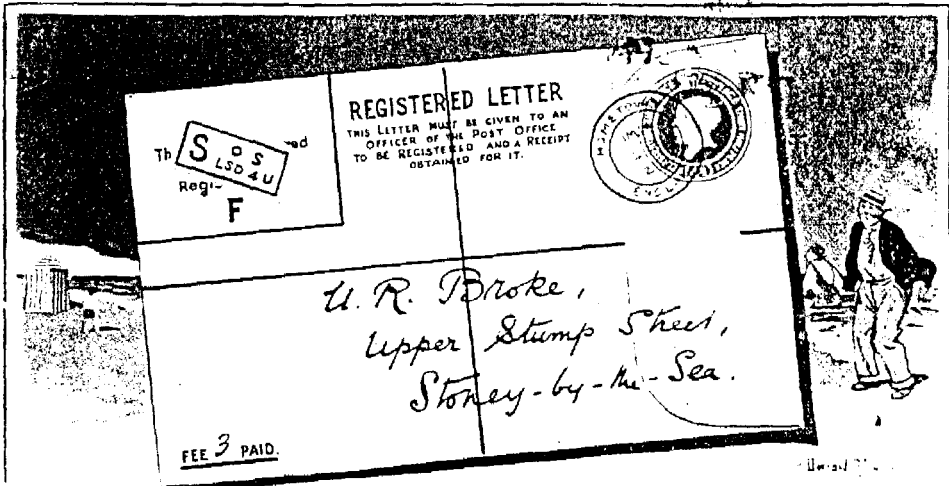
TO THE

E d i t o r

Norwegian Developments

It is nice to see that Norwegian postal stationery is beginning to show its worth - not just in value, but in the fact that the 1996/97 "Norge Helpost-katalog" is the first new catalogue since 1982 to appear with all except the private stationery included. Perhaps it will encourage a few more people to collect Norwegian stationery. Incidentally, I hear from Norway that the Post Office has at last relented and is prepared to allow access to the private postal stationery records, so we might yet see a list of the private use printings.

IF I SEND YOU ANOTHER SIXPENCE I
SUPPOSE YOU WILL STAY ANOTHER WEEK.



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WRITTEN HERE.

John C. Burtis, Esq.,
 El Paso, Ill.,
 U.S.A.

Early Finnish (from a non-member)

At the end of 1995 I started a study of the Finnish Porto Stempel & private lettersheet stationery. I am seeking photocopies of covers & lettersheets with the following details whenever possible:-

Porto Stempel	unused/used
(10 & 20 kop)	smooth/laid paper
	paper thickness
	postmark - name of p.o.
	- cyrillic or low box
	date
	postmark or text on reverse
Private lettersheet	unused/used
(5 & 10 kop)	paper colour
	paper thickness
	postmark - p.o. name, & date
	name of sender

58,492 10 kop Porto Stempel envelopes were sold and 645 20 kop. There might be between 250 & 280 10 kop Porto Stempel surviving. So far I have photocopies as follows:-

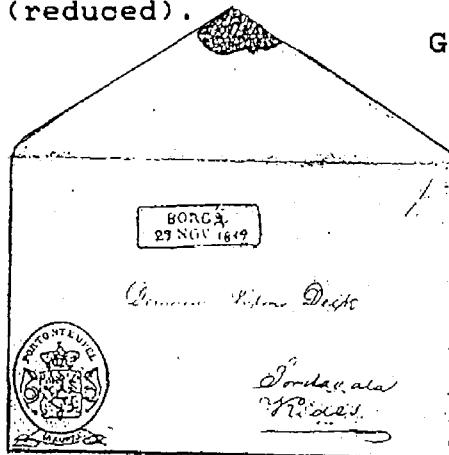
Porto Stempel 10 kop...some 220 (very scarce unused)
20 kop...7 (2 unused & 8 used are recorded)

Private lettersheet 5 kop...35 (no unused known)

10 kop...some 120

Any help from members will be appreciated, and an example of a Porto Stempel envelope is illustrated here (reduced).

Goran Nykvist (Finland)

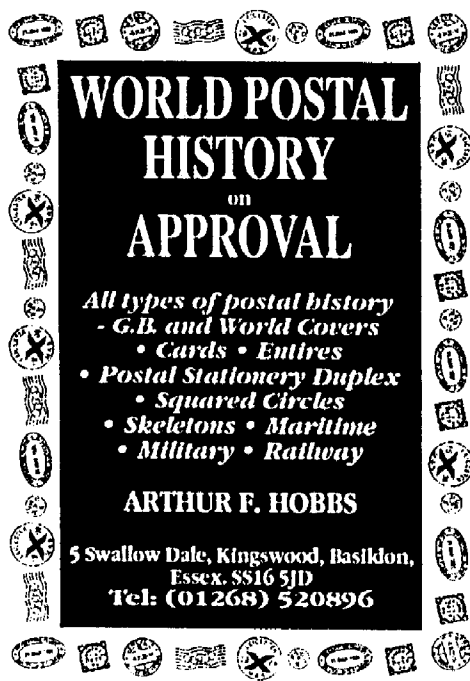
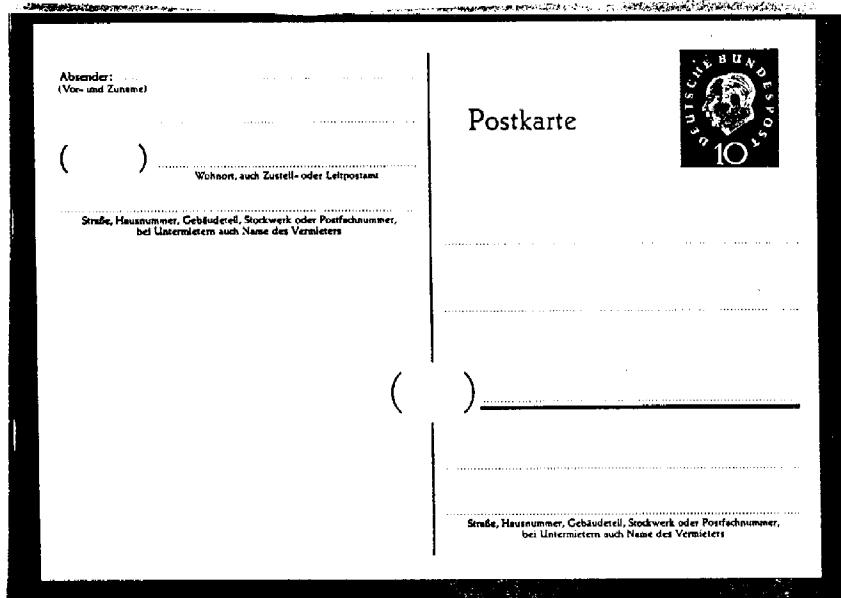


Highest Auction Prices

This is in response to "A record price for a postal stationery card?" on page 9 of "P.S." no.8.

As far as I am able to determine, the highest price paid for a postal card was \$28,000 (about £17,000) paid at the Lowell S. Newman & Co. auction on 13th March 1993. This was for a card (see illustration) Scott UX36, a U.S.A. 1 cent surcharge of 1921. The Scott catalogue price was \$3,500 (about £2,100), so this copy realised around 8 times catalogue value. There are no known mint copies of this item.. Previously there were 2 confirmed used copies recorded, plus information regarding a third that has not been confirmed for many decades. This newly discovered example (found in amongst a lot of ordinary cards!) is thus either the third or fourth example, and is the first ever to be offered at public auction (the others having been sold privately).

The highest *catalogue value* of a postal card of which I am aware is the mint 10pf German Bundesrepublik card Michel P55 (see illustration). It was issued in 1961 and has a catalogue value (mint) of 12,000DM (about £4,500). This card was created when the previous 10pf card, Michel P49, underwent a change in text, where the word "Postachlisafachnummer" was changed to "Postfachnummer". It is theorised that a print run of perhaps a few hours with the change occurred before the plate was changed again for a new stamp type, resulting in Michel P60. Apparently all examples of P55 were sent to one post office, where they were all purchased by one company. When a few used examples were discovered a few years later, the company's return address led one collector to visit the company, & 5 mint copies were found in a secretary's desk. To date, no other mint example has been discovered.



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FROM THE

EDITOR'S

DESK

With regret I record the recent passing away of Robson Lowe, a truly major figure in the philatelic world for very many years. At a time when the light of postal stationery collecting was burning very feebly, it was his inclusion of stationery listings in his "Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps" in the 1950s which kept that light from snuffing out in Britain. We owe him much gratitude, as do collectors in several other specialist fields of philately.

A new society that covers part of our collecting area was formed towards the end of last year. It is the Aerogramme Society. Its roots are in Australia, but it has a considerable membership in the U.S.A. For more information contact Tom Adami, P.O. Box 380, Mitchell, A.C.T. 2911, Australia.

Coincidentally, at much the same time as I heard of this new society, I also learned of an OLD one that catered for similar interests. In one of his letters to me Rene Lee referred to "the existence (1955-57) of an Aero Postal Stationery Club of which Peter Robbs was Secretary...I think (it) had folded before 1961...(it) published articles from time to time in 'Stamp Collecting'". Has any member recollections of this precursor club?

I am sorry to learn that Sam Lawrence will not be rejoining our Society for next year - owing, I believe, to his wife's illness. A good range of his G.B. postal stationery collection was recently on sale by auction at Phillips in London. I recall that the very first "Letter to the Editor" to reach me was from Sam Lawrence, and also that more recently it was he who introduced me to the "cut-out covers" of Oswald Marsh. His contributions to "P.S." will be missed.

The following are articles noticed recently in the philatelic press:-

Postal Cards Provide Variety for the Collector

(M. Baadke, Linn's Stamp News, 10th Feb. 1997).

Provisional Uses of International Postal Cards

(C. Fricke, Scott Stamp Monthly, Junr 1997).

1996 Postal Stationery (listing, by G. Sor-Reime, Gibbons Stamp Monthly, May/June/July 1997).

Postal Stationery Matters (Peter van Gelder, Gibbons Stamp Monthly - June 1997, formular stationery/ Mauritius Royal Visit card 1901/cut-outs; Sept. 1997, National Postal Museum's stationery collection).

Are Postal Stationery Wrappers Boring? (H. Dagnall, Gibbons Stamp Monthly, August 1997).

Private Stationery Stamped to Order (Colin Baker, British Philatelic Bulletin, March 1997).

Death & Funeral Notices on U.S. Postal Cards
(C. Fricke, Scott Stamp Monthly, February 1997).

My thanks go to Duff Malkin (Canada) for supplying information about N. American articles listed here.

LIBRARY

The following items have been added to the Library since the completion of the Library List that was sent out to members in February this year.

- 38 The Postal Stationery of South West Africa 1888-1990. In English and Dutch. Donated by its co-author, J. Stolk. * Posting item - see Lib. List.
- 39 Hodson's Air Mail Stationery Catalogue - Part 1, British Commonwealth. Published in Edinburgh, 1956, this is a presentation copy signed by the author. Donated by Rene Lee.
- 40 Postal Stationery (2 recent issues of the p.s. journal of the American Society, U.P.S.S.).
- 41 Notes on Victorian Embossed Postal Stationery, by H. Dagnall. Donated by Colin Baker.
- 42 Parcel Postage Paid by Impressed Stamps, by H. Dagnall. Donated by Colin Baker.

Further issues:-

Re. Item 9, a further issue of "L'Intero Postale" (1996/97) has been received from the Italian P.S. Society.

Re. Item 10, 3 further issues of "Die Ganzsache" (1996/97) have been received from Norbert Sehler.

43 "AerogrammeR", issues 1 & 3 (1996/97) have been received from the Aerogramme Society in Australia.

44 Private Stationery Stamped to Order, by Colin Baker (3 articles published in the British Philatelic Bulletin in Nov. 1996, Jan. & March 1997).

BOOK REVIEWS

Collectors' Guide to Postal Stationery. By Peter van Gelder. Published 1997 by Squirrel Publishing of 7 Castle Gates, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. £7.95p (plus £1 by post).

This 88-page softback guide is printed on good quality paper and is profusely illustrated with black and white photographs throughout. Its division into 16 chapters makes it very readable and easy to use. The first few chapters review what constitutes "postal stationery", the history of its collection, and the range of items most widely issued. Then follow some suggestions for the different ways by which a collector may proceed. Examples are given from the ranges of items relevant to such collections. The remaining chapters consider the physical maintenance of the collection; and sources of information, including a useful bibliography and glossary.

This book provides a much needed introduction to Postal Stationery. It should help to guide philatelists who wish to enrich their collections either by incorporating stationery into a traditional stamp collection, or by opening up a new strand with considerable potential for the individual to develop. This book is an excellent guide for any collector.

John Barker

Postal Stationery of Ireland. By Otto Jung. Published in 1994 by the Ireland Collectors' Society of Germany (F.A.I.). 290 pp. In English & German..

The appearance of the latest edition of this workk has represented a landmark in the progressive development of this well-established catalogue & handbook. Incorporating the stamped-to-order issues for the first time, this edition's pages are over four

times more in number than those of the 1984 edition, which had been preceded in 1983 by a listing comprising only 19 pages.

The present work provides the most comprehensive listing of Irish postal stationery ever produced and shows the wealth of interest to be found in this area. The author deserves appreciation & gratitude. for providing such a well-structured & detailed presentation of the subject, though it is rather ironic that this publication has been produced by the F.A.I. in Germany rather than from within Ireland itself.

Irish postal stationery in common with other aspects of Irish philately has a very strong following, and this is reflected in the pricing, which includes a number of items at over DM4000 (£1400+). This book is a must for the student of Irish issues.

Alan Huggins

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A E R O G R A M M A T I C S

What is the PSIGNIFICANCE of this?

A small variation on some current Canadian aerogrammes (harlequin duck design) has been brought to my attention by Duff Malkin, In some cases a small symbol like the Greek letter psi appears in the middle of the bottom flap, as shown here:-

←→ OPEN HERE ←→

←→ OUVRIRE ←→



In packets of these aerogrammes one or more of this variety can be found, the rest being plain. Presumably there is a reason for this marking: what is it?

G.B.: One Change & One Jumping of the Gun

A slightly revised version of the standard G.B. aerogramme was issued on 1st April. There has simply been a redesigning of the imprinted blue label at upper left so that it now looks like this:-

BY AIR MAIL
par avion
Royal Mail

This year's Christmas aerogramme was announced for issue on 7th October and features Christmas crackers - said to have been introduced 150 years ago. But Paul Adby tells me that these aerogrammes were on sale at Biddenden Post Office in Kent on 19th September, i.e. 18 days early! To back his point he kindly addressed one to me, and it is postmarked 22nd September.

A New Aerogramme Catalogue

The same member, Paul Adby, is this month bringing out a much needed detailed and priced listing of the aerogrammes of G.B., the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. Apart from general issues it includes P.O.W., Forces and STO types. Unless I am mistaken,

it is over 40 years since a catalogue devoted to aerogrammes was last published in Britain, so this is the first since Mildred Hodson's in the mid-50s. Details of this new publication are advertised in this issue of "P.S." I wish it every success.

WANTS

- Australia inc. States, N.Z. & South Pacific General & specialist postal stationery collections.
Robin Linke, 181 Jersey Street, Wembley 6014, Western Australia.
- Sailing ships World unused p.s. for this theme (but NOT sporting or pleasure sailing craft).
J. Hallstrom, Gustav Lakes Vag 12 4tr, S-54132, Skovde, Sweden.
- Aerogrammes Any single copies from U.K., France, Italy, Israel, Korea for general collection.
R. Sthapit, P.O. Box 1079, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- G.B. QEII airmail envelopes These have red/white/blue borders & octagonal embossed stamps. M/u/1st day.
W. Edmonds, 2 Kingsway Gdns, Crownhill, Plymouth, Devon.
- Bahrain Airletters, lettercards, envelopes & reg. envelopes.
M/u/all periods. J. Gillman,, P.O. Box 47, Marazion, Cornwall.
- Canada QV cards M or u. UY10 1c+1c slate green (rosette); UX11 1c black 127x76mm (rosette); UX21 2c blue (old Queen).
P. van Gelder (address p.2)

MEMBERSHIP LIST

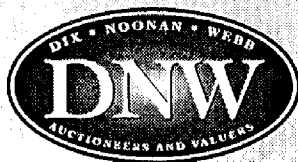
WELCOME to the following new members - a large crop!
The list below gives surname & one initial; country
of residence if not the United Kingdom; & collecting
interests in brief.

Cave B	G.B.;, Malaya; British N.Borneo
Jones C.	G.B.; U.S.A.
Linchevsky S. (Ukraine)	Russia to 1956
Hudson R.	G.B. & Commonwealth
Rolfe P.	Sierra Leone; Cayman Islands
Barnes R.T. (Canada)	Middle East inc. colonial administrations
Richardson G.	Austria
Thompson C.	Denmark; Sweden
Kent P.	Former Soviet Union countries; Indonesia; S.E. Asia inc. Jap- anese occupation
Khoudyakov A. (Ukraine)	G.B.; Newfoundland; Csanada; Australia, N.Z.; S. Africa; KGVII colonials; royalty theme
Hallstrom J. (Sweden)	World (mint); sailing (not sport & pleasure) theme
Nathan D.	British Guiana
Mood M.	G.B.
Eriksson H. (Sweden)	China; Argentina; S. Africa; Australia; railway theme

Correction: in "P.S." no.9 Raygould I. should have
read Raybould I.

Whittaker M.	Burma; India; Yugoslavia
Pipe W.	Commonwealth uprated cards, Lettercards & wrappers; World wrappers (used)
Eloy M. (France)	British colonies in Africa, Asia & Europe
Oman S.	World
Berry R.	G.B. & Commonwealth; U.S.A.
Harding, Mrs B.	Medical theme
Smith H.	Austria
Davies J.	G,B. 1890 Postal Jubilee
Kiddle F.	Morocco; Kuwait; Mexico; AUS- tralian States; World locals
Gillman J.	Bahrain
Adby P.	G.B.; Channel Islands; Isle of Man; Ireland
Bradford R. (Germany)	Germany from 1950; QEII; U.S.A.
Humphreys P.	G.B.; Australia (especially cards in both cases)
Saunders R.	Belgium
Klinge Y. (Japan)	Finland; Japan & Dependencies; Manchukuo; China; Hong Kong
Nakri Y. (Turkey)	Turkey; Middle East; Balkan peninsula

*Total membership is now 181. Analysis: U.K. 110;
Europe 41; N. America 16; Australasia 10, Asia 4.*



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